



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

— *Lee Holloway* —
Chairman of the Board

For Immediate Release April 23, 2010
Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager
414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH IS NOT A 'KNEE-JERK' REACTION

Chairman Holloway not opposed to providing water to Waukesha under the proper circumstances

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement regarding yesterday's County Board vote on Waukesha water:

"This morning's newspaper article misconstrues the position taken by the County Board yesterday. I am not opposed to making Lake Michigan water available to Waukesha, but I am opposed to sending return water through neighborhood creeks and streams in Milwaukee County, especially without input from the County Board. Returning water in this manner would create a terrible public health situation and put children at risk. Children play in this water, and animals drink from this water. It is an intolerable situation. If Waukesha receives fresh water through pipes, then water returned to Lake Michigan should also go through pipes.

"I disagree with the County Executive's comments. This is not a knee-jerk reaction. I am looking out for the public health of Milwaukee County residents. Apparently, the County Executive does not share these serious concerns. That is disrespectful to the citizens of Milwaukee County.

"I am not running for higher office, and I am not willing to risk the health and safety of the County's residents. We cannot, and must not, put the lives of our citizens in jeopardy, especially when Waukesha has other options for returning this water to Lake Michigan.

"As the debate over this issue wears on, Milwaukee County should be given a seat at the table. When deals are cut between the City of Milwaukee and the City of Waukesha, and Milwaukee County's waterways are impacted, I believe the County should have a direct vote on the matter."

###